



States divided along partisan lines in response to shootings

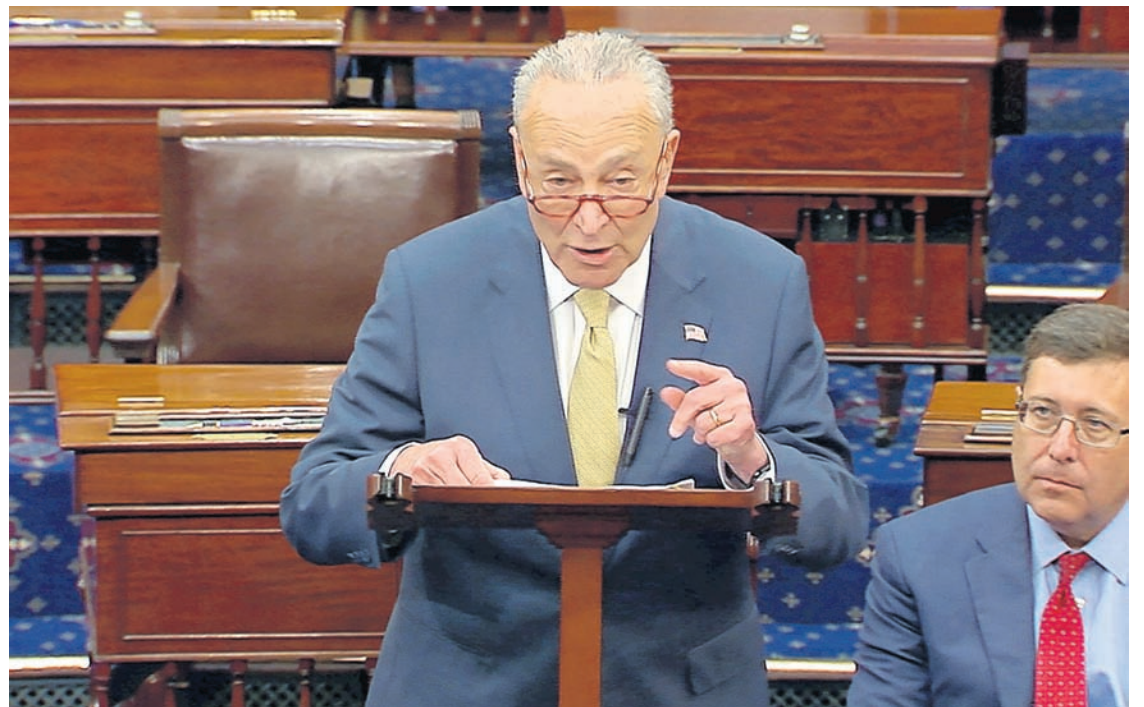
By RACHEL LA CORTE and
ANDREW DEMILLO
Associated Press

OLYMPIA, Wash. (AP) — Washington Gov. Jay Inslee was quick to react to this week's carnage at a Texas elementary school, sending a tweet listing the gun control measures the Democratic-controlled state has taken. He finished with: "Your turn Congress." But gun control measures are likely going nowhere in Congress, and they also have become increasingly scarce in most states. Aside from several Democratic-controlled states, the majority have taken no action on gun control in recent years or have moved aggressively to expand gun rights.

That's because they are either controlled politically by Republicans who oppose gun restrictions or are politically divided, leading to stalemate.

"Here I am in a position where I can do something, I can introduce legislation, and yet to know that it almost certainly is not going to go anywhere is a feeling of helplessness," said state Sen. Greg Leding, a Democrat in the GOP-controlled Arkansas Legislature. He has pushed unsuccessfully for red flag laws that would allow authorities to remove firearms from those determined to be a danger to themselves or others.

Continued on next page



In this image from Senate Television, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer of New York, speak on the Senate floor, Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at the Capitol in Washington.

Associated Press

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Continued from Front

After Tuesday's massacre at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, that left 19 students and two teachers dead, Democratic governors and lawmakers across the country issued impassioned pleas for Congress and their own legislatures to pass gun restrictions. Republicans have mostly called for more efforts to address mental health and to shore up protections at schools, such as adding security guards.

Among them is Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, who has repeatedly talked about mental health struggles among young people and said tougher gun laws in places like New York and California are ineffective. In Tennessee, GOP Rep. Jeremy Faison tweeted that the state needs to have security officers "in all of our schools," but stopped short of promising to introduce legislation during next year's legislative session.

Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers has called for universal background checks and "red flag" laws, only to be ignored by the Republican-controlled Legislature.

"We cannot accept that gun violence just happens," Evers said in a tweet after the Texas school shooting. "We cannot accept that kids might go to school and never come home. We cannot accept the outright refusal of elected officials to act."

On Wednesday, a day after the shooting, legislative Democrats asked that the Wisconsin gun safety



In this image from Senate Television, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, speaks on the Senate floor, Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at the Capitol in Washington.

Associated Press

bills be taken up again, to no avail. Instead, state Assembly Speaker Robin Vos, a Republican, told The Associated Press on Thursday that he is open to the idea of arming teachers to better protect schools, along with adding police and armed security guards.

In New Hampshire, the Republican-led House on Thursday rejected an effort to reintroduce legislation that would have required criminal background checks for commercial firearms sales.

Democratic state Rep. Debra Altschiller said there have been dozens of mass shootings nationwide since the bill was defeated in March.

"We can make a change so we don't have to live like this," she said, her remarks met by boos from some of her colleagues.

Their jeering turned to applause when Republican

Rep. Terry Roy said voters don't want further gun control: "We should not ever, ever use tragedy to push legislation," he said.

An effort on Wednesday by Democratic lawmakers in Pennsylvania's GOP-controlled Legislature to ban owning, selling or making high-capacity, semi-automatic firearms also failed, as House Republicans displayed their firm opposition to gun restrictions.

The situation is similar in Michigan, where Republicans have majorities in the Legislature. Democrats in the state Senate were thwarted Wednesday in their efforts to advance a group of bills that would have required gun owners to lock up their firearms and keep them away from minors.

"Every day we don't take action, we are choosing guns over children," said Democratic Sen. Rosemary

Bayer, whose district includes a high school where a teenager was charged in a shooting that killed four in November and whose parents are charged with involuntary manslaughter, accused of failing to lock up their gun. Republican state Sen. Ken Horn responded by urging discussion about other potential causes of gun violence.

"I would just point out that there are political solutions, but there are just as many spiritual solutions," he said. "We don't know what's really happening in this world, what's happening in this country, what's happening to young men."

Florida stands out as a Republican-controlled state that took action. The 2018 shooting at a high school in Parkland that left 14 students and three staff members dead prompted lawmakers there to pass a law with a red flag provision that lets law enforcement officers petition a court to confiscate guns from a person considered a threat. Democrats want that expanded to allow family members or roommates to make the same request of the courts, but there has been little appetite among Republicans to amend the law.

Instead, Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis said he wants lawmakers to allow people to carry handguns without a permit. The state currently requires a concealed weapons license.

While Republicans have supported red flag laws

in some other states, most legislative action around gun control in recent years has been in states led by Democrats.

In Washington state, the governor earlier this year signed a package of bills related to firearm magazine limits, ghost guns and adding more locations where guns are prohibited, including ballot counting sites.

In California, Gov. Gavin Newsom and top Democratic legislative leaders on Wednesday vowed to fast-track gun legislation, identifying about a dozen bills they plan to pass this year. Newsom highlighted a bill that would let private citizens enforce a ban on assault weapons by filing lawsuits – similar to a law in Texas that bans most abortions through civil enforcement.

Oregon's Democratically controlled Legislature has passed bills that require background checks, prohibit guns on public school grounds, allow firearms to be taken from those who pose a risk and ensure safe storage of firearms. On Wednesday, a group of six Democrats pledged additional action after the mass shooting in Texas and the racially motivated massacre in Buffalo, New York.

"We ran for office to solve big problems and make life better for our constituents — and that includes taking on the gun lobby and politicians that place profits and political power over children's lives," they said in a joint statement. □

Trump loses appeal, must testify in New York civil probe

By MICHAEL R. SISAK

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Former President Donald Trump must answer questions under oath in the New York attorney general's civil investigation into his business practices, a state appeals court ruled Thursday, rejecting his argument that he be excused from testifying because his answers could be used in a parallel criminal probe.

A four-judge panel in the appellate division of the state's trial court upheld Judge Arthur Engoron's Feb. 17 ruling, which enforced subpoenas requiring that Trump and his two eldest children — Ivanka and Donald Jr. — give deposition testimony in Attorney General Letitia James' probe.

"The existence of a criminal investigation does not preclude civil discovery of related facts, at which a party may exercise the privilege against self-incrimination," the appellate panel wrote, citing the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and other legal protections for witnesses.

Lawyers for the Trumps agreed in March that they would sit for depositions within 14 days of an appellate panel decision upholding Engoron's ruling. They could also appeal the decision to the state's highest court, the Court of Appeals, delaying the matter and the Trumps' potential testimony indefinitely.



Former President Donald Trump speaks from the podium during a campaign rally, on May 1, 2022, in Greenwood, Neb.

Associated Press

A message seeking comment was left with lawyers for the Trumps.

James lauded the ruling, which came just two weeks after the appellate panel heard oral arguments in the case. She tweeted that her investigation "will continue undeterred because no one is above the law."

"Once again, the courts have ruled that Donald Trump must comply with our lawful investigation into his financial dealings," James said in a written statement. "We will continue to follow the facts of this case and ensure that no one can evade the law."

James has said her investigation has uncovered evi-

dence Trump's company, the Trump Organization, used "fraudulent or misleading" valuations of assets like golf courses and skyscrapers to get loans and tax benefits. Ivanka and Donald Trump Jr. have both been executives in the Trump Organization and are among their father's most trusted allies.

The appellate panel, in its ruling, described the investigation as focusing on whether the Trumps "committed persistent fraud in their financial practices and disclosures."

Trump, a Republican, denies the allegations and has said James' investigation in part of a politically

motivated "witch hunt."

In appealing Engoron's subpoena ruling, his lawyers argued that James, a Democrat, was engaging in "selective prosecution." The appellate panel rejected that, saying the investigation was on solid legal footing and that the Trumps showed no evidence they or their company were "treated differently" than other companies under similar scrutiny.

A lawyer for the Trumps, Alan Futerfas, told the appellate panel in oral arguments on May 11 that James appeared to be using civil subpoenas to get around a New York law that requires immunity for

people testifying before a criminal grand jury.

Judith Vale, arguing on behalf of James' office, countered there was ample evidence from the civil investigation to support subpoenas for the Trumps' testimony.

She also cited legal precedent allowing the attorney general's office to do so, and said the Trumps could always invoke their Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination — as Trump's son Eric did hundreds of times in a 2020 deposition.

Appellate Court Judge Rolando T. Acosta appeared to agree with that position, foreshadowing Thursday's ruling as he questioned Futerfas from the bench.

Anything Trump says in a civil deposition in James' investigation could be used against him in the criminal probe being overseen by Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg.

Last summer, spurred by evidence uncovered by James' office, the DA's office charged the Trump Organization and its longtime finance chief, Allen Weisselberg, with tax fraud, alleging he collected more than \$1.7 million in off-the-books compensation. Weisselberg and the company have pleaded not guilty.

Thursday's appellate court ruling was the latest in a flurry of legal activity involving Trump and the attorney general's investigation in the last few weeks. □

Justices won't block Biden policy on 'social cost of carbon'

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court on Thursday allowed the Biden administration to use a higher estimate, challenged by Republican-led states, for calculating damages to people and the environment from greenhouse gas emissions.

The justices did not comment in refusing to put back in place an order from a federal judge in Louisiana that had blocked the administration from putting greater emphasis on potential damage from

greenhouse gas emissions when creating rules for polluting industries.

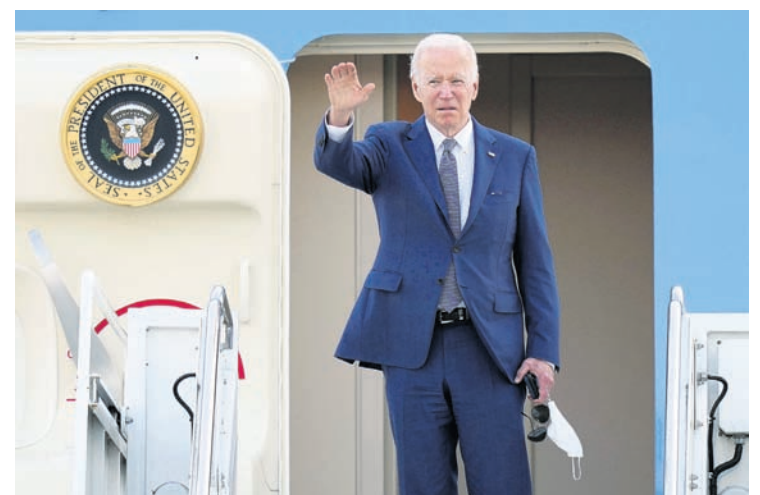
The approach uses the "social cost of carbon" to calculate future climate damages to justify tougher restrictions for fossil fuels, transportation and other industries.

The federal appeals court in New Orleans put the order on hold and Louisiana led nine states in asking the high court to intervene.

The justices' refusal to do so allows the administration

to use an interim standard of \$51 in damages per ton of carbon dioxide emitted while it works to update and possibly increase the cost per ton. The \$51 figure was used by the Obama administration before the Trump administration cut it to \$7.

By itself, the estimate does not impose any new requirements, but it could be used to justify tougher rules. The states would be free to challenge any new regulations. □



U.S. President Joe Biden waves as he boards Air Force One at Yokota Air Base in Fussa, Japan, Tuesday, May 24, 2022.

Associated Press

U.S. education chief seeks action to prevent school shootings

WASHINGTON (AP) — Education Secretary Miguel Cardona said Thursday he is ashamed the United States is "becoming desensitized to the murder of children" and that action is needed now to prevent more lives from being lost in school shootings like the one in Uvalde, Texas. Cardona spoke at a House Education and Labor Committee hearing two days after a gunman armed with an AR-15-style rifle stormed into an elementary school and killed 19 children and two teachers. The massacre, which followed the fatal of shootings of 10 people this month at a Buffalo, New York, grocery store, has revived the debate over gun control. On Thursday, the committee chairman, Rep. Bobby Scott, D-Va., opened the hearing by holding a moment of silence in memory of those who had died in Texas.

While the hearing was on the Education Department's budget and priorities, Cardona started his testimony by addressing the shooting. "After Columbine, after Sandy Hook, after Parkland, after each of these and



Education Secretary Miguel Cardona speaks during the 2022 National and State Teachers of the Year event in the East Room of the White House in Washington, April 27, 2022.

Associated Press

other massacres, we as educators did our best to look parents in their eyes and assure them that we'll do everything to protect their babies," Cardona said, referencing school shootings in Colorado, Connecticut and Florida. But he said all the actions taken in response to those earlier school shootings — including active shooter drills, online early detec-

tion tools and more secure building entrances and perimeters — "are no match for what we're up against." Providing no specifics, he said, "we need action now" to protect America's children. "Let's not normalize this," he said. "Let's use every ounce of influence that we have to get something done to help prevent this from happening again." Cardona told lawmakers

that he would be "failing you as secretary of education if I didn't tell you I was ashamed, I am, that we as a country are becoming desensitized to the murder of children. I'd be failing you as secretary of education if I didn't use this platform to say that students and teachers and school leaders are scared." The Cabinet member did not go as far as his boss,

President Joe Biden, who in an emotional address said Tuesday, "When in God's name are we going to stand up to the gun lobby?" Biden previously had called for a ban on assault-style weapons, tougher federal background check requirements and laws aimed at keeping guns out of the hands of people with mental health problems. The fight over guns has been split largely on party lines. Senate Republicans on Thursday blocked a domestic terrorism bill that would have opened debate on gun safety. Rather than regulate guns, some Republicans have proposed arming teachers to deter school shootings. Cardona rejected that. "And the solution of arming teachers, in my opinion, is further disrespect to a profession that's already beleaguered and not feeling the support of so many folks," he said. Scott, in his opening remarks, called school shootings "too common of an occurrence" in America. "We could have prevented a lot of these if elected leaders valued children and families more than guns," he said. □

Planned Parenthood workers in 5 Midwest states seek union



Demonstrators hold a vigil against Planned Parenthood in Omaha, Neb., April 14, 2011.

Associated Press

By DAVID PITT
Associated Press
DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — About 400 workers at Planned Parenthood offices in five states said Thursday they plan to unionize as their employer deals with the potential loss of business in states where abor-

tions may become illegal if the U.S. Supreme Court overturns the landmark 1973 Roe v. Wade ruling. Workers for Planned Parenthood North Central States in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota said they have signed cards show-

ing majority support for unionization, and on Thursday they formally filed for a union election with the National Labor Relations Board, said Ashley Schmidt, a training and development specialist for Nebraska and western Iowa. They plan to join SEIU Healthcare Minnesota & Iowa, an affiliate of the Service Employees International Union that has about 1 million members in 29 states, including doctors, nurses and laboratory technicians. SEIU locals represent Planned Parenthood workers in other regions, including those serving Oregon and Washington, New York, and Washington, D.C. Union organizing in a variety of fields has gained momentum recently after a decades of decline in union membership in the U.S. The

Biden administration has been supportive of efforts to expand unions, and organizers have worked to establish unions at companies including Amazon, Starbucks, outdoors retailer REI and Google parent company Alphabet. The Planned Parenthood workers seeking to join the union in the Midwest include nurses, education outreach workers, community organizers and other nonmanagement employees at 28 clinics in the five states. They provide services such as reproductive care, cancer screening and abortions. On a call with reporters Thursday, employees discussed concerns about unequal pay for similar positions in different locations, lower pay than other health care providers, high

turnover due to exhaustion and burnout, and a feeling that management doesn't always listen to worker concerns. "Unfortunately, I have seen many of these people move on after their ideas and concerns went unheard by the executive team for far too long. Across our affiliate both clinical and administrative staff are overworked, underpaid and undervalued," said Sadie Brewer, a registered nurse who provides abortion services at a St. Paul, Minnesota, clinic. Molly Gage, a human resources vice president for Planned Parenthood North Central States, said the organization prioritizes autonomy and choice in people's personal lives and respects that same right for workers. □

West mulls having Russian oligarchs buy way out of sanctions

By ROB GILLIES and FRANK JORDANS

BERLIN (AP) — Western allies are considering whether to allow Russian oligarchs to buy their way out of sanctions and using the money to rebuild Ukraine, according to government officials familiar with the matter.

Canadian Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland proposed the idea at a G-7 finance ministers' meeting in Germany last week.

Freeland raised the issue after oligarchs spoke to her about it, one official said. The Canadian minister knows some Russian oligarchs from her time as a journalist in Moscow.

The official said the Ukrainians were aware of the discussions. The official said it's also in the West's interests to have prominent oligarchs dissociate themselves from Russian President Vladimir Putin while at the same time providing funding for Ukraine.

"We would not be talking about this if there wasn't some comfort on the part of the Ukrainians," the official said. "We need to know that it works for them, too." The officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorized to speak publicly about internal G-7 discussions.

The proposal was raised in the context of provid-



Deputy Prime Minister of Canada Chrystia Freeland speaks during an event to sign an update to the North American Free Trade Agreement, at the national palace in Mexico City, Dec. 10, 2019.

Associated Press

ing additional money to Ukraine and how the frozen funds and assets of oligarchs could be a source of funds.

At this point, it is just an idea, the official said, but Western allies have expressed interest. European Union officials have talked about the need to look at different and new avenues of confiscating assets and proving money to Ukraine. The proposal could help remove a legal hurdle for authorities in countries such as Germany, where the

bar for confiscating frozen assets is very high. By voluntarily giving up a share of their fortune abroad, oligarchs would save Western governments the potential embarrassment of being rebuffed by their own courts.

Western countries have imposed a raft of sanctions on oligarchs in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Many of their multibillion-dollar fortunes are intertwined with the West, from investments in Silicon Valley startups to British Premier

League soccer teams.

Former Chelsea owner Roman Abramovich, who was sanctioned over his links to Putin, has said that net proceeds from the sale of the soccer team would be donated to victims of the war in Ukraine. A deal to sell the soccer club has dragged out as the British government makes sure that Abramovich does not profit from the enforced sale.

The British government this week approved the sale of Chelsea to a consortium fronted by a part-owner of

the Los Angeles Dodgers. Chelsea has been operating under a government license that expires on May 31 since Abramovich's assets were frozen in March.

The EU has imposed asset freezes and travel bans on more than 1,000 people, including over 30 oligarchs, in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine on Feb. 24.

Almost 10 billion euros (\$10.7 billion) of assets have so far been frozen by EU countries, according to the European Commission. It has established a "Freeze and Seize" task force to coordinate the enforcement of what are unprecedented EU penalties against Russia.

A 2017 study of Russian oligarchs published by the U.S.-based National Economic Bureau estimated that as much as \$800 billion is held by wealthy Russians in the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Cyprus and other offshore banking centers. That vast fortune, held by a few hundred ultra-rich individuals, is roughly equal to the wealth of the rest of Russia's 144 million people. Some oligarchs have also obtained dual citizenship in Britain and other Western countries.

The family fortunes of many in Russia's billionaires date back to the 1990s, the turbulent decade after the fall of the Soviet Union. □

Moldova's ex-president placed under 30-day house arrest

Associated Press

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — A court in Moldova placed former President Igor Dodon under 30-day house arrest on Thursday as he faces an investigation into suspected treason, corruption, illicit enrichment and illegal party financing.

The ruling came after Dodon, who served as Moldova's president from 2016 to 2020 and leads the Eastern European country's pro-Russian opposition bloc, was detained Tuesday at his home in the capital of Chisinau after it was searched by investigators. Speaking as he left a courtroom Thursday, Dodon

claimed the charges against him were politically motivated and at the behest of foreign powers.

"It is a political issue aimed at neutralizing the opposition," Dodon said in a video published by Moldovan news site ProTV.md. "It is strange and despicable for those who ... filled all the state institutions with foreign, Romanian, American and German advisers, who control all of the institutions, to accuse me of treason."

Following Dodon's detention, senior anti-corruption prosecutor Elena Cazacov said the subjects of the police investigation were "mainly one of the former

presidents of the Republic of Moldova and those close to him, but also other persons who have a connection to the commission of the alleged acts."

Dodon has denied wrongdoing. In a post on Facebook on Tuesday, he wrote that he had explanations for any allegations.

"This is not the first time I have become the target of a politically directed and directed justice system," he wrote.

One of Europe's poorest countries, Moldova is an ex-Soviet republic that gained independence in 1991.

Russia maintains troops — nominally peacekeepers



Members of Moldova's Information and Security service (SIS) escort former Moldovan President Igor Dodon to a van after he was detained at his house in Chisinau, Moldova, May 24, 2022.

Associated Press

— in the separatist Moldovan region of Transnistria, a disputed, Russian-

backed breakaway state that borders southwestern Ukraine. □

Rival Libya leader says he has no plans to rule from Tripoli

By RAMI MUSA

SIRTE, Libya (AP) — One of Libya's rival prime ministers told The Associated Press that he has no immediate plans to rule from the capital of Tripoli, after his attempted move there last week sparked clashes and fears of a return to widespread civil strife.

In an interview late Wednesday, Prime Minister Fathi Bashagha said that his government will work from its headquarters in Sirte, a city on the Mediterranean coast about half-way between the country's east and west. Rival administrations from each end of Libya claim to be its legitimate rulers until elections are held.

Describing last week's events, Bashagha said he had entered Tripoli in a civilian car and that those escorting him were unarmed. A young man was killed during the incident. Bashagha identified him as Ahmed Alashabab, calling him a supporter who was defending him from militia-men.

"We do not blame ourselves for having entered the city," he said. "I had said that I would not enter the capital unless conditions were 100% favorable."

Oil-rich Libya has been wracked by conflict since a NATO-backed uprising toppled and killed long-time dictator Moammar Gadhafi in 2011. It has



Fathi Bashagha, one of Libya's rival prime ministers, gives an interview to The Associated Press, in Sirte, Libya, Wednesday, May 25, 2022.

Associated Press

been split between rival administrations in the east and west, each supported by different militias and foreign governments. The establishment of Bashagha's government in Sirte is likely to further cement the political divide.

Bashagha, a former interior minister and air force pilot, was named prime minister by the country's east-based parliament in February. But his rival, Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, based in Tripoli in the country's west, has refused to step down, insisting he will hand over power only to an elected government. Last week's fighting in Tripoli was the most serious there

since 2020, when east-based commander Khalifa Hifter and his forces waged a yearlong campaign to try to take the city with backing from Russian mercenaries. They eventually failed to do so, after Tripoli forces were bolstered by Turkish military help. Since then, U.N. mediators have tried to get the country on a path towards elections. Dbeibah's appointment last year, as part of the U.N.-led process, was clouded by allegations of corruption and bribery. As an interim prime minister, Dbeibah was to have led the country through elections in December, but the vote never took place.

Both Dbeibah and Bashagha hail from the western city of Misrata, a base of influential militias. Lawmakers have argued that Dbeibah's mandate expired after Libya failed to hold presidential elections on schedule. The failure was a major blow to international efforts to end a decade of chaos in Libya. The country reverted to its long-running political impasse, with rival governments claiming power. Dbeibah has repeatedly promised to hold elections soon. Bashagha said he doubts his rival can unite the country and organize orderly voting, claiming Dbeibah does

not command enough loyalty outside of the capital.

"He will only be able to hold them in Tripoli," he said, adding that his own government is looking at holding nationwide elections within 14 months.

The impasse worsened over the past two months, resulting in the closure of oil facilities — including Libya's largest oil field — in areas controlled by Hifter's forces. Bashagha said he was not behind the stoppage of oil production, but that local tribes had decided to take matters into their own hands, not wanting to fund Dbeibah's government.

Bashagha said Abdel-Ghani al-Kikli, a Tripoli militia leader, was part of the effort to attack him after he entered Tripoli. Al-Kikli was previously implicated in war crimes by global rights groups, but has headed a nebulous body called the Stability Support Authority that reports to the Tripoli government since 2021.

Bashagha also addressed criticism that in areas under his control when he was interior minister under a previous Tripoli-based government, the situation remained abysmal for migrants setting out from Libya on Mediterranean crossings to Europe.

After being intercepted, many are kept in squalid detention centers where they face torture, assault, and deprivation. □

Thai leader: Asia is gaining strategic, economic importance



Thai Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, left, shakes hands with Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida at the start of their meeting at the Prime Minister's official residence in Tokyo, Thursday, May 26, 2022.

Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Thai Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha said Thursday that a new U.S.-backed economic pact is further proof of how important and relevant Asia is today.

"Asia is still expanding and gaining more influence in terms of strategic and economic importance," Prayuth said.

U.S. President Joe Biden and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida announced earlier this week during a visit by Biden to Japan that 13 countries have joined the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework, a new trade

pact that will help the United States work more closely with Asian economies on issues including supply chains, digital trade, clean energy and anticorruption efforts.

The signatories are Australia, Brunei, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, the United States and Vietnam. Together they represent 40% of the world's GDP.

Prayuth is in Tokyo to attend the "The Future of Asia" organized by Nikkei Inc. He stressed the need to in-

crease economic growth by keeping markets open and inclusive as the world faces disruptions such as the coronavirus pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

"Sustainable economic growth is only possible when we are able to adopt to any disruption," Prayuth said.

Thailand is the host of next year's Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum summit. Prayuth said APEC is at a critical juncture, with a need to achieve peace and drive economic growth. □



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'No future for babies:' 842 U.S.-bound Haitians end up in Cuba

By MILEXSY DURÁN and
ANDREA RODRÍGUEZ
Associated Press

VILLA CLARA, Cuba (AP) — Some of the more than 842 Haitians who tried to reach the United States in a boat but ended up in Cuba said Thursday that they fled violence in their country and were charged thousands of dollars by smugglers who ushered them onto a dilapidated boat and later abandoned them at sea. It is the largest single arrival of people from Haiti on the Cuban coast amid an increasing exodus caused by gang violence and other problems there.

"They deceived us. In my case (a trafficker) told me that the boat was going to have 200 or 300 people, and on a big boat it is normal. But when you're on board, you don't know how many people are going to appear," said Maximaud Cherizard, a 34-year-old engineer who traveled with a 7-year-old son, his wife and his sister.

"We were ashamed when we arrived" in Cuba, Cherizard said. The boat was so packed that some people were on the vessel's roof, he said.

The 842 people were rescued Tuesday by the Cuban coast guard and other government services in the vicinity of Caibarien in Villa Clara province, about 300 kilometers (185 miles) east of the capital, Havana. They were taken to a temporary center in a former summer camp and were in isolation as a health precaution.

According to the account of at least three migrants with whom the AP spoke, the group left Tortuga Island in northern Haiti after waiting there for almost two months for the trip. News of the supposed opportunity



Haitian migrants wait to be processed and receive medical attention at a tourist campground in Sierra Morena, in the Villa Clara province of Cuba, Wednesday, May 25, 2022.

Associated Press

to go to Florida had spread by word of mouth and some people said they paid \$4,000 each for a spot on the boat.

They were taken in a small boat to the larger one early Saturday morning and their phones were taken away by smugglers, who alleged the signal would make them detectable by the U.S. Coast Guard, according to the migrants.

Cherizard said he had been shown a picture of a cruise liner that was going to take the migrants, a promise that he realized was false when he saw the dilapidated boat. He and other migrants said they did not see a name on the vessel.

Cherizard said he and his family were placed in a cabin with others with little access to the rest of the vessel. When the captain abandoned ship at sea early Tuesday morning, they learned that some migrants had tried to take control of the boat in an at-

tempt to reach their destination.

Another migrant, 19-year-old Joyce Paul, said the captain had left in a smaller vessel and the one the migrants were on began to lean. The Haitians signaled with flashlights towards the Cuban coast to be rescued.

In the days at sea, 15 people threw themselves into the water as conditions grew more desperate, according to Paul.

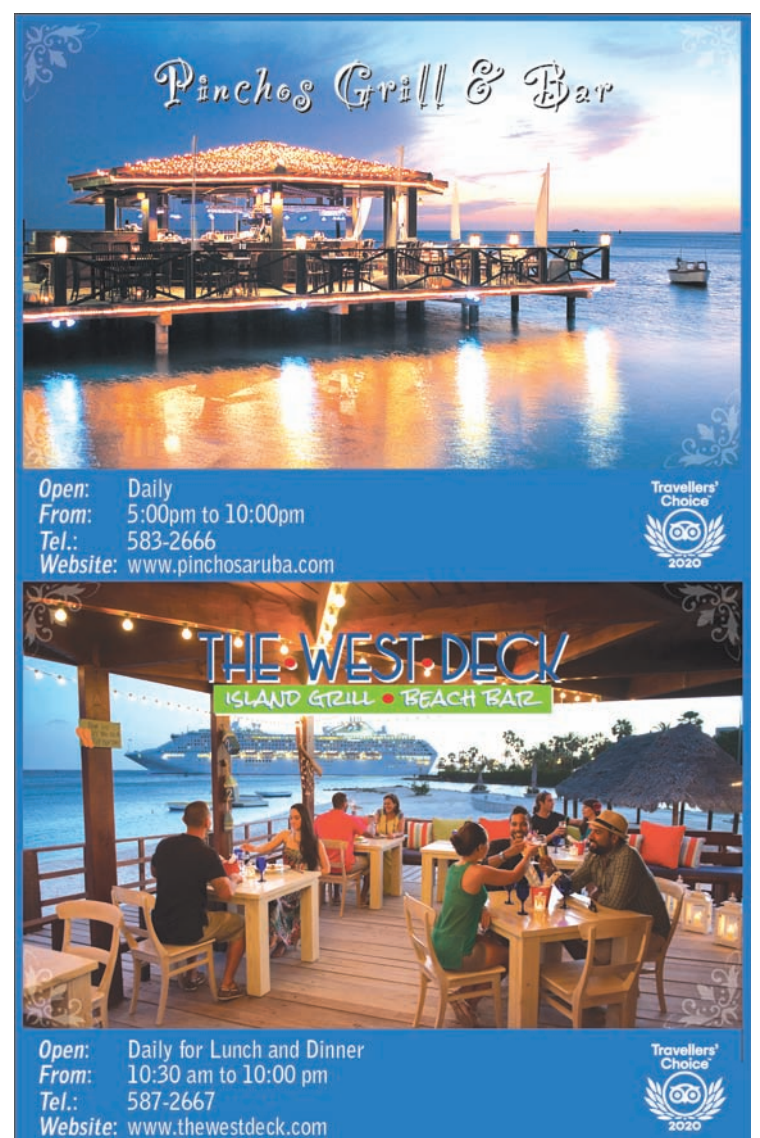
There were 70 children, including infants, among the migrants, Cuban authorities reported.

"In Haiti, there is no future for babies," said Loverie Horat, the 30-year-old mother of a 24-day-old infant. She told The Associated Press that she and her husband boarded the boat after leaving Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital. Her comments in Creole were translated into Spanish by Cherizard. Migrants said that insecurity and poverty in Haiti forced them to flee. Paul, the

19-year-old, said that gang members had killed his two sisters. "You can't go out on the street" because of the violence, Cherizard said.

Due to sea currents and winds, some smugglers' vessels aiming to reach the United States end up on Cuban coasts. Not all arrivals are officially reported, although in recent months authorities in Havana have acknowledged an increase in arrivals. Migrants are usually returned to their home countries in accordance with binational agreements.

The Haitians arrived in Cuba at a time when the island itself is suffering from a severe economic crisis with food, medicine and fuel shortages and high emigration to the United States. □



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KLM Aruba Marathon



On Wednesday morning at 8.30 am at the Government an official meeting convened.

Foundation Run in the Sun Aruba, founded in 2018, to enhance tourism, running

and a healthy and sporty life style on Aruba is the organizing party of the KLM Aruba Marathon, is very honored to give the first KLM Aruba Marathon 2022 finisher Medal as a token of gratitude to the coun-

try Aruba to the Minister of Tourism and Public Health, Mr D.P (Dangui) Oduber and to the Minister of Education and Sport, Mr E.J.H. (Endy) Croes and Ronella Croes, CEO at Aruba Tourism Authority. This beautiful Medal, is the reward for every participant of the KLM Aruba Marathon.

IBISA, Instituto Biba Saludabel y Activo, partner since the first edition of the KLM Aruba Marathon extended its collaboration with the KLM Aruba Marathon for 2023, 2024 and 2025 with the approval and supervision of Minister Croes and Minister Oduber. Minister Croes signed the contract.

Ronella Croes, CEO of Aruba Tourism Authority also expressed her appreciation for the KLM Aruba Marathon event in which runners from 28 countries will participate this year while enjoying their Runcation in Aruba. The event enhances tourism and the active image of Aruba. The Aruba Tourism Authority wishes the organizers good luck this year and looks forward to welcoming 3,500 participants next year for the 5th edition of this event!

Mr Kees van Muiswinkel,

chairman of Foundation Run in the Sun Aruba told;

"For this 4th edition, we welcome 2,500 participants at the start, of which 550 will come from abroad. The race is organized on the highest international level (AIMS/IAAF certified) and because of the various distances, accessible for everybody.

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With four (4) distances there is a suitable distance for everyone. The 5K and 10K is for runners and walkers. Participation internationally and locally, men and women. Each participant receives a personal (bib) race number, online time registration, cotton event T-shirt, luxury medal, plenty of waterstations including sports drink and fruit. Everyone who registered and paid before May 15th receives a race/bib number with their name on it. Beautiful course along the spectacular scenery of Aruba. Free App with 'Live Track & Trace'. Family and friends can follow each participant. Free certificate for each

participant with their name and distance.

Start & Finish of all distances is at Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort.

DRI-Fit Running shirt, Singlet, Pasta Party, personal finish photo & video by Marathon photos.com are optional.

In addition to ensuring a festive and sportive atmosphere, the safety of the participants and the public is of course the highest priority.

Certified Race

The KLM Aruba Marathon is an official race. AIMS is the Association of International Marathons and Distance with International Association with the World Athletic Federation on all matters related to international road races.



Everybody can register online via www.klmarubamarathon.com and pay online by bank at IBISA or Patrishi Sport Store.

The organization wishes everyone a good preparation for their participation in the 4th edition of the KLM Aruba Marathon and is looking forward to working together with all partners and volunteers to make it a joint success.



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Ceremonial entry Zr.Ms. Groningen in Aruba

Zr.Ms. Groningen will pay a short harbor visit to Aruba on May 27th around 08:30. Completely according to tradition the crew will be ceremoniously welcomed. The ship is present in the region since April, but has not yet paid a visit to Aruba.

In the Caribbean Region the crew focuses on counter drug operations, among other things. In this way, the armed forces fulfill their constitutional tasks, such as promoting and maintaining the international legal order and stability. The operations take place in collaboration with chain part-

ners, such as the Coast-guard Caribbean Region and the American Joint Interagency Task Force South (JIATF-South).

The Royal Dutch Navy has 4 patrol ships of the Holland class. These OPV's (Ocean-Going Patrol Vessels) are flexibly deployable vessels for monitoring coastal waters. In addition, they can be used for law enforcement such as counter drug operations and humanitarian tasks such as providing emergency aid. This year Defense has already intercepted about 4000 kilograms of drugs.



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History of fishing in Aruba



ORANJESTAD — Fishing has been a family tradition for ages in Aruba. Our ancestors used to fish for a living. Even though nowadays you don't see them often we still have some passionate fishermen on the island that go out every day in search for fish to feed their families and serve our local market. One of these fishermen is Gregory Wernet.

The so-called Continental Bank between Aruba and the opposite coast reaches a depth of about 650 feet. The sea is very rich in fish here. Since the time of the indigenous native people fish and other sea creatures such as turtles, octopus squids, conch and many type of crustaceans have formed a means of subsistence for the native Aruban inhabitants. Especially along the west coast of the island where the fishing grounds are settlements of fishermen. Until the arrival of the oil industry Aruban fishermen could supply Aruba's wants.

As a source of income, however, fishing did not amount too much. In the beginning of the 1900's approximately 160 people earn their living in this branch of this industry. Rancho, which stands for a shed, nowadays east Oranjestad, was the head quarter and remains the fishermen's settlement. Savaneta, Noord, Santa Cruz all had their fishermen's villages. At a rough estimate there were about a hundred small fishing boats during that time.

The Arubans were mainly engaged in coastal fishing, using rowing-boats or small sailing-boats, and lines or dragnets and canisters in shallow water. When fishing with deep-sea lines just over the bottom of the sea the boat is kept in place by means of a piece of rock serving as an anchor. The two most important species of fish by far caught in this manner are the pargo or red snappers and a variety of groupers like the mero, jeanpao and the wowo di

boyo.

Cruising off the coast the Aruban fisherman patiently waits for a fish willing to snap at the bait on the drag-line, in nets and traps. Veritable giants are sometimes caught. Barracudas weigh from 9 to 44 pounds and measure from 3 to almost 7 feet. The king-fish has a weight from 22 to 44 pounds; the moclat may tip the scales at 155, whilst garfish, having a length of nine feet, weigh over 132 pounds.

Most fish caught is used for their own consumption, to feed their families and some are being sold in the market to local restaurants.

Fisherman Gregory Wernet

Gregory Wernet is a well-known fisherman from Santa Cruz. His father taught him fishing when he was a small child. Gregory has two sons, Jordan and Jordanny, which he taught fishing too, when they were only 3 years old and he takes them fishing with him. Fishing has been a family tradition for quite a long time and even his grandson Willvion of 7 years old is following his grandfather steps. This is the sixth generation of fishermen in their family.

They go deep sea fishing. There they catch red snapper, grouper and amberjack. They usually fish for 15 hours a day, but now due to the covid-19 measurements they go fishing from 5 in the morning until 8 o'clock at night or even sometimes from 8 at night till 5 in the morning. The day before they prepare all their fishing tools such as the Lines, lures, spears, and load their boat with fishing reels, batteries, fill the gasoline tank, lights and some

food and beverages. For bait he uses sardines, squid and the small fish known in Aruba as piskechi. The have two boats they use for fishing. 'Virgen del Valle' which is parked at the pier by the Seaport and 'Padrot' which they have at home.

The fish they catch they take home to their families and they also sell it to their clients. Gregory is proud to be a fisherman. It is a honest and humble job but

with it he is able to feed his family even during hard times. It is a very dangerous job and you have to spend many hours on the sea, waiting patiently and risking your life while fighting a big fish and big waves but the adrenaline it brings with it but also just sitting there listening to the sound of the waves and enjoying the marvelous view that nature has to offer is all worth it. □

Source: Etnia Nativa



Big tech deals keep coming: Broadcom buys VMware for \$61B

By **MICHELLE CHAPMAN AP Business Writer**

Computer chip and software maker Broadcom will spend about \$61 billion to acquire the cloud technology company VMware, one of the biggest deals of the year despite an environment of rising inflation and economic uncertainty. The proposed deal comes just weeks after billionaire and Tesla CEO Elon Musk offered to spend \$44 billion on Twitter and it is second in size this year only to Microsoft's nearly \$70 billion acquisition of Activision Blizzard, the maker of Candy Crush and Call of Duty.

The massive buyouts are occurring at a time of heightened anxiety because of turmoil on the global supply chain, war in Europe and rising prices that have the potential to cool both business and consumer activity.

But that uncertainty has also created opportunities for companies like Broadcom. The tech-heavy Nasdaq has tumbled more than 26% this year.

In one day this week, social media companies had about \$130 billion in market value erased over rising questions about advertiser



The Exterior view of VMware headquarters in Palo Alto, Calif., Wednesday, Oct. 24, 2007.

Associated Press

spending.

With the perceived value of tech companies on the decline, at least for now, more buyouts could be on the way with targeted companies appearing relatively cheap.

And Broadcom CEO Hock Tan has been among the most aggressive buyers, building out the company with big acquisitions in recent years like Symantec for close to \$11 billion in 2019, and CA Technologies

for about \$19 billion the previous year.

Broadcom wants to establish a stronger foothold in the cloud computing market and VMware's technology allows large corporations to blend public cloud access with internal company networks. VMware has close relations with every major cloud company and provider, including Amazon, Google and Microsoft.

"VMware's platform and

Broadcom's infrastructure software solutions address different but important enterprise needs, and the combined company will be able to serve them more effectively and securely," Tom Krause, president of the Broadcom Software Group, said in a prepared statement Thursday.

The Broadcom Software Group will rebrand and operate as VMware once the transaction closes. The cash-and-stock deal also

includes \$8 billion of VMware net debt.

Under the proposed offer, VMware shareholders can choose to receive either \$142.50 in cash or 0.2520 shares of Broadcom common stock for each VMware share.

VMware is already among the moving parts of the tech sector this year, with Dell Technologies Inc. spinning off its 81% equity stake in company only about 6 months ago. Michael Dell is still VMware's chairman and he owns 40.2% of the company's outstanding shares.

"If Broadcom plans to enter the enterprise software market it could be a boon into a new area that it doesn't have much presence for outside of CA Technologies," wrote Tracy Woo, senior analyst with Forrester Research. "It could extract some functionality from VMware's portfolio to pad CA's product capabilities." Dell and Silver Lake, which owns 10% of VMware's outstanding stock, have signed support agreements to vote in favor of the transaction, as long as VMware's board continues to recommend the proposed deal. □

Retailers' troubles sound the alarm for rest of economy

By **DAMIAN J. TROISE AP Business Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — The fastest inflation in 40 years squeezed retailers during the first quarter, alarming investors worried about the broader economy's outlook.

Earnings reports from Walmart, Target and Amazon this month showed higher costs are hurting retailers' operations. While profits for all companies in the benchmark S&P 500 index grew by about 9% last quarter, retailers' profits contracted more than 30% from a year ago. They blamed rising costs for raw materials, shipping and labor for the slump.

The weak results surprised investors who were closely watching the sector to see how inflation is impacting

various businesses. Companies had already been raising prices on goods to offset higher costs and boost their profit margins. Consumer spending remained resilient throughout 2021, despite rising costs. But after Russia's invasion of Ukraine sent energy prices skyrocketing, companies had a more difficult time offsetting the costs.

Consumers also shifted spending from high-priced discretionary items to necessary goods, or just pulled back altogether as higher food and gas costs ate up more of their incomes.

"The consumer suddenly looked much more vulnerable" last quarter, said Brad McMillan, chief investment officer for Commonwealth Financial Network. Other trends, like declining con-

sumer confidence and real incomes, are also flashing red. "As goes the consumer, so goes the economy and ultimately the market." Target's profit tumbled 52% from a year ago as costs piled up. Walmart, the nation's largest retailer, also reported weak profit. Both chains' revealed that consumers' spending is shifting, with Walmart executives highlighting a shift to private-label brands from national ones, particularly in lunch meats.

Inflation is at a four-decade high and the U.S. economy shrank in the first three months of the year, the first decline in gross domestic product since the pandemic hit. The latest retail reports have raised concerns about more weakness to come this year. Retailers'



In this July 21, 2021 photo, a consumer shops at a retail store in Morton Grove, Ill.

Associated Press

troubles are sounding the alarm for other areas of the economy too.

The labor market's slow recovery from the pandemic over the last two years has left it still 1.2 million jobs below pre-pandemic levels.

The retail sector's recent weight on the broader market could next bleed through to overall hiring as employers look to control costs, said Bill Adams, chief economist for Comerica Bank. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 45 Shaped like a pie slice
1 Untamed marten

6 Dark marten

11 Tuscany setting

12 Look forward to

13 Bring home, as a runner

14 Paris subway

15 Fare carrier

17 Sax great Getz

18 Salon supplies

20 Revered one

22 Broad st.

23 Elegant cat

26 Horse's cousin

28 Outdoes

29 Chores

31 Recipe amount

32 Staff member

33 Madcap

34 Goatee setting

36 Put on

38 Arrested

40 Like some online videos

43 Sports spot

44 Singer Cara

DOWN

1 Tell tales

2 Greek vowel

3 Flighty

4 Rap sheet name

5 Bobcat's kin

6 Texas's Houston

7 Impressive

8 Showing the effects of hard wear

9 Old Italian currency

10 School on the Thames

16 Clock numeral

18 Intent look

19 At any time

21 Bits of makeup

23 Beach cover

24 Catch off guard

25 Spot

27 Drizzly

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Yesterday's answer

16	Clock	30	Grass
5	Bobcat's	numeral	coating
18	Intent	look	Congo's
19	At any	name	former
21	Bits	gullet	
8	Showing	cousin	
23	Beach	Malev-	
24	Catch	olent	
39	Veto	vote	
41	Busy	worker	
42	Summer	sign	

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13						14			
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34	35				36	37			
38				39		40		41	42
43						44			
45						46			

5-27

A X Y D L B A A X R
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

5-27

CRYPTOQUOTE

J Q Z R R G L Y J V S E Y X C Y E

E V N G I C R J Q Z R R G L

I Z Y J C L Z T . — T I . I V Y E

X Z R Y E Z C N Z I

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: BEFORE YOU SPEAK, ASK YOURSELF: IS IT KIND, IS IT NECESSARY, IS IT TRUE, DOES IT IMPROVE ON THE SILENCE? — SAI BABA

Ellen DeGeneres ends daytime show with plea for compassion



In this photo released by Warner Bros., talk show host Ellen DeGeneres embraces Stephen "tWitch" Boss during a taping of "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" at the Warner Bros. lot in Burbank, Calif. Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Ellen DeGeneres brought her nearly two-decade daytime talk show to an end Thursday with a celebrity lovefest and a forceful assertion of her achievement as a gay woman daring to be herself.

DeGeneres and guests Jennifer Aniston, Billie Eilish and Pink shared memories and affection as "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" concluded its Emmy-winning, 3,200-plus episode run that began in September 2003.

"Twenty years ago, when we were trying to sell the show, no one thought that this would work. Not because it was a different kind of show, but because I was different," DeGeneres said of the pushback from TV stations.

When the syndicated show went on the air, she was prevented from saying the word "gay" or even the pronoun "we," DeGeneres said, since the latter would imply she had a partner. She didn't specify who imposed the ban.

"Sure couldn't say wife, and that's because it wasn't legal for gay people to get

married — and now I say 'wife' all the time," DeGeneres added, with a touch of defiance, as actor Portia de Rossi watched from the studio audience. They wed in 2008.

The host, who became known for encouraging her audience to join her in impromptu dances, shared some last moves with her sidekick and DJ, Stephen "tWitch" Boss, to the tune "Best of My Love."

The dancer-choreographer saluted DeGeneres as someone who inspires others because she has "the courage to step out and be your authentic self."

Aniston, who as the first guest on the show's first episode gave DeGeneres a "Welcome" doormat, arrived with another that read, "Thanks for the memories." DeGeneres noted the "Friends" star has been on the show a total of 20 times. "You're welcome," Aniston said, teasingly, then turned serious.

"I love you, and I so appreciate you and what you have given to the world over the last 19 years. The contribution is endless," she

said. She introduced a career retrospective video that also touted DeGeneres' philanthropic efforts, said to include more than \$400 million in donations to charities and "deserving viewers."

"I love you," a beaming Eilish told DeGeneres during their chat. "I love you so much, it's dumb," said Pink, who performed "What About Us."

DeGeneres' daytime reign hit a serious bump in 2020, when the show was alleged to be a toxic workplace and three producers exited amid the claims. On the air that fall, DeGeneres apologized for "things that shouldn't have happened," but defended herself as being the same genuine person — if an imperfect one — on- and off-camera. The talk show represented a second major TV act for DeGeneres. In 1997, she made an indelible mark when she came out as lesbian and brought her character on the ABC sitcom "Ellen" with her. The series was axed the next year.

"Twenty-five years ago, they canceled my sitcom because they didn't want a lesbian to be in prime-time once a week. And I said, 'OK, then I'll be on daytime every day,'" DeGeneres said Thursday.

The comedian, actor and producer has said she'll take time to consider her next career move, but first she and de Rossi are making a trip to Rwanda. DeGeneres wrapped her daytime show with a plea to her audience, one she said was worth repeating.

"If I've done anything in the past 19 years, I hope I've inspired you to be yourself, your true authentic self. And if someone is brave enough to tell you who they are, be brave enough to support them, even if you don't understand," DeGeneres said. "By opening your heart and your mind you're going to be that much more compassionate, and compassion is what makes the world a better place." □

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A worker wearing a protective suit to help protect against COVID-19 stands outside an ambulance parked along a street in Beijing, Thursday, May 26, 2022.

Associated Press

WHO: COVID-19 cases mostly drop, except for the Americas

LONDON (AP) — The number of new coronavirus cases and deaths are still falling globally after peaking in January, the World Health Organization said. In its latest weekly assessment of the pandemic, the U.N. health agency said there were more than 3.7 million new infections and 9,000 deaths in the last week, drops of 3% and 11% respectively.

COVID-19 cases rose in only two regions of the world: the Americas and the Western Pacific. Deaths increased by 30% in the Middle East, but were stable or decreased everywhere else.

WHO said it is tracking all omicron subvariants as "variants of concern."



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At surprise-filled French Open, tennis prodigy makes good

By **HOWARD FENDRICH**

AP Tennis Writer

PARIS (AP) — Grand Slam losses by high-ranked, well-known and accomplished players to, well, lower-ranked, lesser-known and less-accomplished opponents offer a rare opportunity for those unheralded winners to enjoy the spotlight.

And for the first time in nearly a half-century, just three of the top 10 seeds in the French Open women's draw made it to the round of 32.

So meet Leolia Jeanjean: age 26; from Montpellier, France; ranked 227th; a wild-card entry after never before being a Slam participant; seemingly destined as a kid for great things in tennis, so much so that there were sponsorship deals before she was old enough to attend high school, until, that is, an injured knee derailed things. She left the sport for a couple of years, wound up moving to the U.S., where she played college tennis at Baylor, then Arkansas, then Lynn University in Boca Raton, Florida, while pursuing her studies in finance. At Lynn, she went unbeaten in singles and doubles, so it occurred to her maybe a professional career was worth a try.

Good choice for Jeanjean. Bad one for her foes so far at Roland Garros, including Karolina Pliskova, a two-time major finalist and the No. 8 seed, who was unable to offer much resistance Thursday and was beaten 6-2, 6-2 by Jeanjean in the second round on



France's Leolia Jeanjean plays a shot against Karolina Pliskova of the Czech Republic during their second round match at the French Open tennis tournament in Roland Garros stadium in Paris, France, Thursday, May 26, 2022.

Associated Press

Thursday.

"Even me, I don't have an explanation. I don't even realize what's happening," Jeanjean said. "It's my first Grand Slam. I thought I would have lost in the first round in two sets — and I found myself beating a top-10 player. So, honestly, I have nothing else to say. I don't really know how it's possible."

A year ago at this time, she was ranked outside the top 800 and winning hundreds of dollars at low-level International Tennis Federation events. No matter what happens in her next match, she'll leave Paris with at least 125,000 euros (\$135,000).

"When I stopped playing when I was young, I just wanted to give myself an-

other chance," Jeanjean said. "because in my head, since I was good when I was like 14, 15, I'm like, 'Why can't I be good 10 years later?' So that's why, yeah, I (took a) chance. And so far it's working."

Asked whether he also was stunned by it all, Jeanjean's coach of three months, Thomas Delgado, quickly replied, straight-faced: "No." And then he chuckled, before continuing: "Well, yes, I am. ... On one side, I'm surprised she did it. But on the other, I knew she could."

No. 9 Danielle Collins, the Australian Open runner-up in January, departed, too, eliminated by 50th-ranked Shelby Rogers 6-4, 6-3 in a matchup between Americans.

According to the WTA, the previous time three or fewer top-10 women's seeds got to the French Open's round of 32 was in 1976; in those days, only eight players were seeded to begin with in a field of 64, half of the current tournament size.

Pliskova and Collins joined No. 2 Barbora Krejčíková — the 2021 champion who was beaten in the first round Monday, then pulled out of doubles, because she tested positive for COVID-19 — No. 4 Maria Sakkari, No. 5 Anett Kontaveit, No. 6 Ons Jabeur and No. 10 Garbiñe Muguruza, who all were gone by Wednesday. The remaining trio, all in the top half of the bracket, won second-round matches Thursday: No. 1

Iga Świątek ran her winning streak to 30 matches, the longest in women's tennis since Serena Williams had a 34-match run in 2013, by overwhelming Alison Riske 6-0, 6-2; No. 3 Paula Badosa recovered from a mid-match lapse to get past Kaja Juvan 7-5, 3-6, 6-2; No. 7 Aryna Sabalenka defeated Madison Brengle 6-1, 6-3.

"I could feel like, 'Wow, this is good, because they are losing.' But in this case, I'm more like, 'OK, pay attention, because anything can happen,'" said Badosa, a quarterfinalist in Paris a year ago. "You saw it today."

The men's draw certainly has seen some excitement — including five-set victories after being match point down for both No. 3 Alexander Zverev and No. 6 Carlos Alcaraz on Wednesday — but all 12 of the highest seeds advanced to the third round, the first time that's happened at the French Open since 2009, according to the ATP. No. 4 Stefanos Tsitsipas, the runner-up to Novak Djokovic at Roland Garros last year, saved four set points after falling behind 6-2 in the last tiebreaker before putting away 134th-ranked qualifier Zdeněk Kolář 6-3, 7-6 (8), 6-7 (3), 7-6 (6) in a 4-hour, 6-minute tussle Thursday night.

Kolář never had won a tour-level match until this week, but his relentless ball-tracking left Tsitsipas acknowledging at the end: "He drove me crazy. Yeah, it was really frustrating. ... Not easy. Not easy." □

De Bondt wins last flat stage of Giro; Carapaz still leads

TREVISO, Italy (AP) — Belgian rider Dries De Bondt won a four-man sprint to take the last flat stage of a Giro d'Italia that looks like being decided on the last day Sunday.

Richard Carapaz, the 2019 champion and Tokyo Olympics gold medalist, maintained a three-second lead in the overall standings from Australia's Jai Hindley, who was runner-up in 2020. Hindley had a tire punc-

ture within the final three kilometers of the stage — which were neutralized, meaning he was given the same finishing time as the other leaders he was riding with when he had to stop for mechanical help.

Mikel Landa stayed third overall, 1:05 behind Carapaz.

The remaining three stages will determine the winner: Grueling mountain legs on Friday and Saturday fol-

lowed by a hilly individual time trial that ends the race in Verona on Sunday.

"I checked Landa and Hindley all the time as I knew there could be some gaps," Carapaz said. "I want to keep the maglia rosa till the end, I trust in my legs." João Almeida, the Portuguese rider who stood fourth overall, withdrew before the 18th stage after testing positive for COVID-19. Almeida was 1:54

behind Carapaz.

Two-time winner Vincenzo Nibali — who plans to retire at the end of the season — moved up to fourth, although he remained nearly six minutes off the lead.

The stage ended with a flat circuit around Treviso to conclude a 156-kilometer (97-mile) route from Borgo Valsugana that included two fourth-category climbs. De Bondt, who rides for the Alpecin-Fenix team, was

part of an early four-man breakaway and he sprinted past Edoardo Affini and Magnus Cort Nielsen at the line. "We did a good operation with the other escapees in the final kilometers to keep the peloton behind, and then we had to focus on Magnus who is a very fast rider," De Bondt said. "It's my first win in a GT (Grand Tour), I can't believe it. It was a dream to achieve a win like this." □

Castroneves seeks historic fifth Indianapolis 500 victory

By JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Helio Castroneves lost his first battle for position in the parking lot of Global Preparatory Academy, a dual language school located less than 10 minutes from Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

He'd been to the school before, knew he was supposed to park in an alley around back and knew he'd lead passenger Roman Grosjean through a cafeteria door into their appearance. But the carpool line was jammed, so Castroneves slowed his bronze Acura through the school parking lot to wind his way past the traffic.

A speeding hatchback suddenly flashed past Castroneves on his outside and darted into the empty parking spot ahead of him. "Somebody's in a hurry," Castroneves chuckled. "Passing only counts on Sunday."

He will have to pass a lot of cars this Sunday when Castroneves attempts to become the first five-time winner of the Indianapolis 500. The Brazilian joined A.J. Foyt, Al Unser and mentor Rick Mears as the only four-time winners of "The Greatest Spectacle in Racing" last May in a raucous surprise that produced one of the most enthusiastic fence-climbing celebrations in race history. It took 30 years between Mears' fourth Indy 500 win for Castroneves to join the club. Mears wants him to stick around for a bit.

"I said, 'You'd better be very careful what you wish for here. If you win that fifth, we're going to kick you out



Helio Castroneves, of Brazil, stands by his car during qualifications for the Indianapolis 500 auto race at Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Saturday, May 21, 2022, in Indianapolis.

Associated Press

of the club and you're going to be all by yourself. Nobody to hang out with. So be careful," Mears said.

Sorry, pal: Castroneves has every intention to race for his fifth Borg-Warner this weekend. It will be his 22nd start in the Indy 500, more than any other driver in the field, and that experience proved invaluable last year as Castroneves predicted traffic patterns to use the wake from lapped cars to hold off Alex Palou for the win.

He is back for a second time with Meyer Shank Racing, the team that offered Castroneves the chance to race Indianapolis again when his 20-year career with Team Penske ended. The Indy 500 win last year — the first IndyCar victory for Michael Shank's organiza-

tion — elevated what was a one-car program into a team expected to challenge for wins every race. It helped MSR expand and sign Simon Pagenaud, another Indianapolis 500 winner and teammate of Castroneves' at Penske, and Castroneves' exuberant personality has raised the worth ethic of everyone within the organization.

"He has an undying spirit inside him that drives him to do this and he's not done yet," team founder Michael Shank told The Associated Press. "When he springs out of that motorhome, that's not (fake). That's how he feels. He's excited to get the day going. We want our group to be tied with him in history. I want to be the team that gets him the fifth, and if it doesn't work

out this year, then we're going to do it again."

Castroneves is in a one-year deal right now with Shank that the team wants to find a way to extend.

Castroneves turned 47 earlier this month and shows no signs of slowing down. He led the students at his school stop in calisthenics and talked about the importance of what stands in front of him at Indy.

"There is a chance to make history and I want people to understand how important it is," Castroneves said. "The people here in Indianapolis know, because they know what the Indy 500 means. I don't think people from the rest of the motorsports world know the position I'm in and I'm here to show them just how important this history is."

Shank puts Castroneves in the same class of athletes as Tom Brady, who was 43 when he won his seventh Super Bowl.

"Exceptional people never die; there are certain people who have it innately in them to exceed all expectations," Shank told AP. "Now at some point, the vision is going to give away, right? It is what it is, but in my mind, Helio could probably go for the fifth another four or five times without being too affected by age."

Castroneves didn't get the qualifying run he hoped and starts 27th on Sunday, and his goal is to have cut the deficit in half and be inside the top 12 by the half-way mark.

"It's not going to be easy, but it's not impossible," Castroneves said.

He is the second-oldest driver in the field, five months younger than Tony Kanaan, a fellow Brazilian. Castroneves recalled the conversation here a year ago centered on phasing out veterans in IndyCar's changing of the guard.

Age does not matter at Indy, though.

"I believe that a lot more people understand that this place, people talking about age, that was the theme last year of all the younger generations coming and winning races," Castroneves said. "Winning last year shows that this place is not about age, it is not about being brave. It is about having experience and using it at the right time."

I feel after my win last year, people now look at guys with experience here a lot different than maybe they did." □

Sugar Bowl moved to Dec. 31 to avoid conflict with NFL game

The Associated Press

The Sugar Bowl has been moved off its usual prime-time spot to noon EST Dec. 31 to avoid a conflict with a Monday night NFL game. The bowl schedule for the upcoming season was released Thursday.

The games begin on Dec. 16 with the Bahamas Bowl

and the Cure Bowl in Orlando, Florida, and end with College Football Playoff championship on Jan. 9 at the NFL stadium in Inglewood, California.

The CFP semifinals will be held Dec. 31, a Saturday, at the Peach and Fiesta bowls.

With Jan. 1 falling on Sun-

day, the games usually played on New Year's Day were moved to Jan. 2, when the national holiday is observed.

The move to Monday, Jan. 2 is common in college football to avoid conflicting with the NFL.

But ESPN found itself with a conflict that day: The NFL

has scheduled the final Monday regular-season game for that night, which forced a relocation by the New Orleans-based Sugar Bowl on the schedule.

The Rose Bowl is scheduled for a 5 p.m. EST start Jan. 2 on ESPN, and will precede the Bills at Bengals game. The last time the Sugar

Bowl was played before Jan. 1 was 1995 when it was a Dec. 31 game between Virginia Tech and Texas.

The Orange Bowl will be played the night of Dec. 30 and the Cotton Bowl will also be played on Jan. 2, with at 1 p.m. EST kickoff scheduled. □

CELEBRATING TWENTY YEARS
Soul beach Memorial Day Weekend
SBMF22
Aruba



KID CAPRI



DJ TRAUMA



DJ AKTIVE



DJ ENVY



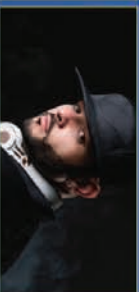
DJ FRANK SKI



DJ E-CLAZZ



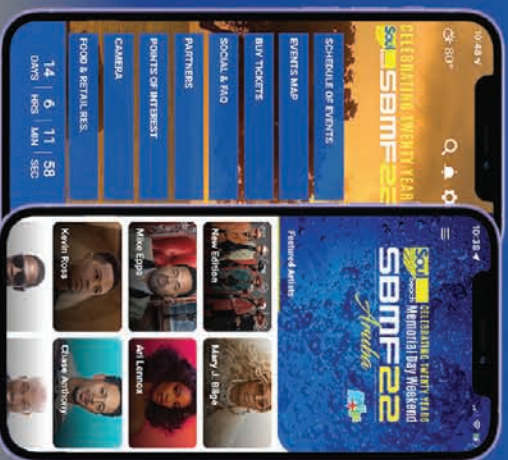
DJ DIABLO



DJ OUTKAST

ARTIST LINEUP MAY CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE | NO CAMERAS ALLOWED IN CONCERT

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KEVIN ROSS



CHASE ANTHONY



DOUG E. FRESH



CHRIS SPENCER

ARTIST LINEUP MAY CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE | NO CAMERAS ALLOWED IN CONCERT

FRIDAY MAY 27 COMEDY NIGHT

HOSTED BY: CHASE ANTHONY

8-11p | RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL PLAZA (Oranjestad)

SATURDAY MAY 28 MUSIC CONCERT

HOSTED BY: DOUG E. FRESH

7-11p | HARBOR ARENA (Oranjestad)

SUNDAY MAY 29 MUSIC CONCERT

HOSTED BY: CHRIS SPENCER

7-11p | HARBOR ARENA (Oranjestad)

TICKET OUTLETS:

Tickets available only online
or at the gate on
concert nights

COST:
Single Night: \$95/Adl 171



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Soul beach Memorial Day Weekend
SBMF22
Aruba

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (*details subject to change)

WEDNESDAY • MAY 25

SOUL BEACH KICK-OFF PARTY

10pm - 3am | VENUE: 1 ENTRANCE /3 LOCATIONS
(YOLO, KOKODO, THE VUE ROOFTOP)
Featuring: Frank Ski & DJ E-Clazz

THURSDAY • MAY 26

SOUL BEACH DAY PARTY

11am - 3pm | MOOMBA BEACH (Palm Beach) (No Entry Fee)
Featuring: DJ E-Clazz / DJ Diablo
*No outside bottles allowed

LIVE RADIO REMOTE BROADCAST

4pm - 7pm (Free Entry) | Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino – Poolside (Oranjestad)
POOLSIDE HAPPY HOUR – DJ FRANK SKI LIVE RADIO REMOTE
WHUR – Washington, DC KISS 104.1 – Atlanta, GA

OFFICIAL SOUL BEACH ALL WHITE PARTY

10pm - 3am | MOOMBA BEACH (Palm Beach)
Featuring: DJ Trauma

FRIDAY • MAY 27

SOUL BEACH DAY PARTY

11am - 3pm | MOOMBA BEACH (Palm Beach) (No Entry Fee)
Featuring: DJ E-Clazz / DJ Diablo
*No outside bottles allowed

LIVE RADIO REMOTE BROADCAST

4pm - 7pm (Free Entry) | Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino – Poolside (Oranjestad)
POOLSIDE HAPPY HOUR – DJ FRANK SKI LIVE RADIO REMOTE
WHUR – Washington, DC KISS 104.1 – Atlanta, GA

SOUL BEACH COMEDY JAM CONCERT

8pm - 10pm | RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL PLAZA (Oranjestad)
(NO CAMERAS WILL BE ALLOWED INTO CONCERT VENUES)

MIKE EPPS

HOSTED BY: CHRIS SPENCER

w/ DJ OUTKAST & GEE MONEY

OFFICIAL SOUL BEACH NIGHTCLUB PARTY

10pm - 3am | RENAISSANCE ARUBA RESORT & CASINO - CONVENTION CENTER (Oranjestad)
Featuring: DJ Eny

SATURDAY • MAY 28

SOUL BEACH DAY PARTY

11am - 3pm | MOOMBA BEACH (Palm Beach) (No Entry Fee)
Featuring: DJ E-Clazz / DJ Diablo
*No outside bottles allowed

SOUL BEACH MAIN STAGE CONCERT

7pm - 11pm | HARBOR ARENA (Oranjestad)
(NO CAMERAS WILL BE ALLOWED INTO CONCERT VENUES)

MARY J. BLIGE

KEVIN ROSS

AMI MENDEZ

HOSTED BY: DOUG E. FRESH
w/ DJ TEDSMOOTH

SOUL BEACH NIGHTCLUB PARTY

11pm - 3am
BOCHINCHA (Oranjestad) | Featuring: Kid Capri, DJ Aktive

SUNDAY • MAY 29

SOUL BEACH DAY PARTY – 2 LOCATIONS

11am - 3pm
BEACH 1: BABY BEACH (San Nicolas) (No Entry Fee) | Featuring: DJ Outkast
BEACH 2: MOOMBA BEACH (Palm Beach) (No Entry Fee) | Featuring: DJ E-Clazz & DJ Diablo
*No outside bottles allowed

SOUL BEACH MAIN STAGE CONCERT

7pm - 11pm | HARBOR ARENA (Oranjestad)
(NO CAMERAS WILL BE ALLOWED INTO CONCERT VENUES)

NEW EDITION
ARIE LENNOX
LE GROOVE

HOSTED BY: CHRIS SPENCER
w/ FRANK SKI

SOUL BEACH NIGHTCLUB PARTY

11pm - 3am
BOCHINCHA (Oranjestad) | Featuring: Doug E. Fresh & DJ Tedsmooth, DJ Aktive

MONDAY • MAY 30

MEMORIAL DAY “COOL DOWN” BBQ

10am - 5pm | MOOMBA BEACH (Palm Beach) (No Entry Fee)
Featuring: DJ E-Clazz & DJ Diablo
*No outside bottles allowed

SOUL BEACH “EXTENDED PLAY” PARTY

FREE ADMISSION
Details TBD